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Candace Havens
Director

A G E N D A

Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities

DATE: March 14, 2011
TIME: 6:30 P.M.
PLACE: City Hall Cafeteria

1. **Minutes:** Consideration of the approval of the minutes from the January 10 and February 14 meeting of the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities

{6:35 p.m.}

2. **Guest Speaker:** Dina Rosenbaum, Carroll Center for the Blind

{7:00 p.m.}

3. **Guest Speaker:** SEB LLC, Developer of 112-116 Dedham Street

{7:30 p.m.}

4. **Report:** Projects funded with CDBG Access funds

{7:45 p.m.}

5. **Discussion:** DeafBlind Community Access Network proposed elimination

{8:10 p.m.}

6. **Discussion:** HP parking in West Newton and Waban Village and curb cuts/crosswalks at the intersection of Braeland Street and Cypress Street

{8:20 p.m.}

7. **Report:** Members and public report on any issues of non-compliance in the City which are then forwarded to the Inspectional Services Department

The location of this meeting is handicap accessible, and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons requiring assistance. If you have a special accommodation need, contact the Newton ADA Coordinator Kathleen Cahill, 617-796-1125, via email at kcahill@newtonma.gov or via TDD/TTY at (617) 796-1089 at least two days in advance of the meeting date.

{8:30 p.m.}

8. **Other Business** (Relocation of monthly meeting to City Hall Room 209 beginning April; Disability Commission status; Privacy Preferences – member contact information)

Next Meetings: April 11, May 9, June 13

The location of this meeting is handicap accessible, and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons requiring assistance. If you have a special accommodation need, contact the Newton ADA Coordinator Kathleen Cahill, 617-796-1125, via email at kcahill@newtonma.gov or via TDD/TTY at (617) 796-1089 at least two days in advance of the meeting date.

MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES MINUTES

January 10, 2011 City Hall, Rm 209, 6:30 p.m.
1000 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton, Massachusetts 02459

Members Present:

Jane Brown
Rob Caruso, Co-Chair
Lucie Chansky
Jini Fairley
Rosemary Larking
Barbara Lischinsky
Heather Platt
Girard Plante, Co-Chair

Staff Present:

Kathleen Cahill, Community Development Senior Planner
Stephanie Gillman, Public Buildings Commissioner

Public:

Sandra Lingley

Regrets:

Jeff Hutter
Jason Rosenberg

R. Caruso called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Committee members requested that K. Cahill see if the meeting could be relocated from the cafeteria to the second floor.

1. **Discussion:** Stephanie Gillman, Commissioner of the Public Buildings Department, seeking input from the Committee on access improvements in City Hall.

Stephanie Gillman, the Public Buildings Commissioner polled the Committee on their priorities for accessible improvements in City Hall. The following potential improvements were discussed: acoustics in the Aldermanic Chamber and the War Memorial, accessible hardware for all of the doors, an automatic door opener for the accessible entrance, accessible improvements to the bathrooms, creating an accessible entrance on the front of City Hall, wayfinding in the form of tactile arrows and floor markings for the basement, adjusting countertop heights in customer service oriented departments, and an accessible directory.

Ms. Gillman plans to submit an application next month for the available CDBG Access funds that reflect some of the needed accessible improvements that were mentioned.

Following this discussion the Committee received an update from the co-chairs and K. Cahill on the status of the Disabilities Commission. The Board of Aldermen will meet on January 18, 2011 and consider the Mayor's request that the Board of Aldermen accept the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, section 8J, and establish by ordinance a Commission on Disabilities in the City of Newton. Concurrently, the Mayor's Office will be working with the Law Department to draft a policy on the allocation of handicap parking violations revenue. The Committee would like the formal name of the Commission to be the Newton Disability Commission.

2. **Minutes:** Consider approval of the minutes from the December 13, 2010 meeting of the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities.

B. Lischinsky noticed that Sandra Lingley's name was not included among the public in attendance. J. Brown moved that the minutes be approved as amended. L. Chansky seconded the motion and the Board voted 8-0-0 to approve the minutes.

3. **Project Report:** CDBG funded access projects including discussion of announcements of available funding for FY12 funds.

K. Cahill reviewed the current status of projects funded with CDBG Access funds. She also mentioned that the Planning and Development Board recommended approval of the transfer of funds from 'Access Projects TBD' to FY10 Accessible Pedestrian Signals in order to fund the installation of APS at the intersection of Washington Street and Commonwealth Avenue. Once the comment period is over the in early February the work order will be placed for these installations.

4. **Report:** Report on Fair Housing Committee from liaison, Girard Plante.

G. Plante was unable to attend the last Fair Housing Committee meeting. K. Cahill mentioned that Barbara Chandler, the City's consultant hired to complete a systems analysis on accessibility in the City, will release the first draft of her report to the Fair Housing Committee later this month.

5. **Discussion and Recommendations:** Consideration of a recommendation for an additional handicap parking space in West Newton Village and a recommendation for the relocation of the existing handicap parking space in Waban Square.

The Committee discussed whether or not a handicap parking space should be located nearby Dunkin Donuts on Washington Street or on the other side of the street by Shing Yee Restaurant. K. Cahill will visit the site, take pictures, and note the current location of the crosswalks in that area.

The Committee also discussed the possibility of relocating the handicap parking space from Windsor Road to a more level, yet central area in the Waban Village. There was a great deal of discussion about the pros and cons of moving the space further up Beacon Street towards Waban Avenue, on Windsor Street across the street from the current location or on Beacon Street across the street from the string of shops and next to the crosswalk. K. Cahill requested that the members who live nearby or others that are able visit the site. She will also complete another site visit to measure the slope of the area on Windsor Street.

7. Discussion: Discussion of FY12 priorities for the Committee (such as community education efforts) and webpage updates.

Members discussed the following changes that they would like to make to the Committee's webpage: include links to other agencies that offer services to people with disabilities, elaborate on the mission of the Committee, and list the current members. K. Cahill will work on implementing these changes.

Members are interested in getting involved in ways to increase public awareness and education about obstacles faced by people with disabilities. One suggestion was to connect with college students in Newton. Another idea was to have staff and other members of the public experience what it would be like to have different physical limitations by using a wheelchair. The members are interested in sponsoring a workshop for local business owners on how to increase accessibility in their stores. If a Disabilities Commission is established funding that has been donated to the Commission could be one source for these types of educational efforts.

8. Report: Members and public report on any issues of non-compliance in the City which are then forwarded to the Inspectional Services Department.

L. Chansky mentioned that there was snow blocking access to a handicap parking space in Filene's Basement. She also believed that one of the spaces was missing signage. Since her visit to the store was several days ago she indicated that she would check to see if the snow had melted and if the sign had been buried. She will follow-up with K. Cahill if the issues remain.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



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MEETING MINUTES

MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES MINUTES
February 14, 2011 City Hall, Rm 209, 6:30 p.m.
1000 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton, Massachusetts 02459

Members Present:

Jane Brown
Rob Caruso, Co-Chair
Lucie Chansky
Jini Fairley
Rosemary Larking
Heather Platt
Girard Plante, Co-Chair

Staff Present:

Alexandra Ananth, Senior Planner
Kathleen Cahill, Community Development Senior Planner
Stephanie Gillman, Public Buildings Commissioner
Linda Plaut, Arts in the Parks and Mayor's Office for Cultural Affairs
Amy Yuhasz, Associate Director of Housing and Community Development

Public:

Donald Lang, Newton Farm Commission
Gloria Thompson, Women's Circle of Newton Highlands
Greg Maslowe, Newton Farm Commission
Alderman John Rice
Susan Roberts

Regrets:

Jeff Hutter
Barbara Lischinsky
Jason Rosenberg

R. Caruso called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

1. **Update:** Update by the Newton Farm Commission on the Angino Farm Renovations.

A. Ananth, D. Lang, and G. Maslowe spoke about the proposed renovations to Angino Farm, which will be funded with Community Preservation Act funds. The Farm Commission will be meeting with the Community Preservation Committee, Wednesday, February 16 to provide an update on the scope of work.

A. Ananth reviewed the entire scope of the proposed renovations, including the three changes to the plan that were made after the Mayor's Committee's visit to the Farm in June, 2010. These three changes include: a three-season bathroom, a walk-in cooler, and space accommodation for a lift to the second floor, should a future expansion take place. The proposed plan also includes two handicap parking spaces located in front of the farmhouse, in the circular driveway. The Farm Commission plans to install a fully accessible commercial kitchen where community classes will be held. An accessibility consultant was brought on board by the Farm Commission, in response to the recommendations of the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities, which were issued in June, 2010.

One member asked if assistance in loading the CSA pick-ups would be provided by staff, if it was requested by a person with a disability. G. Maslowe responded that staff is on hand during these pick-ups and they make themselves available to help anyone that needs it.

A great deal of time was spent discussing the location of the HP spaces. Members of the Mayor's Committee felt that there should be HP spaces located closer to the basement/CSA entrance of the Farm. G. Maslowe maintained that these spaces are needed for staff and his family, who live in the farmhouse. Although the spaces are not set aside for HP parking, accommodations can still be made on an as-needed basis. D. Lang mentioned that an accommodation policy addressing this issue will be written by the Farm Commission and made available on the website.

One member of the Mayor's Committee congratulated the Farm Commission on the incorporation of two accessible bathrooms. The previous design included one accessible bathroom on the main floor and the revised design includes two accessible bathrooms, one on the main floor and one in the basement.

D. Lang stated that he noticed the inaccessibility of the farm stand after the Mayor's Committee mentioned it in their June letter. The farm stand was designed to be accessible but unfortunately the final structure was not built to design. This was be rectified soon.

2. **Action Item:** Review and recommendation of FY12 CDBG Access applications

- The Workshop of the Women's Club of Newton Highlands – Handicap Accessibility Project (\$14,500)
- Newton Public Buildings – Waban Library Automatic Door Opener (\$7,500)
- Newton Public Buildings – Accessible Ramp at Carr School/Newton Cultural Center (\$12,500)
- Newton Public Buildings – Newton City Hall Accessibility Improvements (\$16,575)

Alderman Rice and S. Gillman presented the application for the Waban Library Automatic Door Opener for \$7,500 in CDBG Access funds. The Waban Library is currently being operated by the Waban Improvement Society, a non-profit, neighborhood based group. He mentioned that there is also a desire by the City and the Zervas School to relocate the polling location from Zervas Elementary School to the Waban Library. Members asked Alderman Rice who was currently using the ramp and he responded that there have been some individuals in wheelchairs and many elderly using the ramp. One member wondered who would maintain the door opener once it was installed. Public Buildings will be responsible for maintaining the door opener. Another member wondered if there were funds set aside at the state level to fund accessible improvements to polling locations. Nobody present knew about such funds.

G. Thompson, presented the ramp application for The Workshop of the Women's Club of Newton Highlands requesting \$14,500 in CDBG Access funds. G. Thompson mentioned that there are public events held at the Workshop several times a year, including Ward 6 Democratic activities and Newton Highlands meetings.

L. Plaut and S. Gillman presented the ramp design application for the Carr School/Newton Cultural Center for \$12,500 in CDBG Access funds. Linda described the ramp as in disrepair and non-complaint. It was originally built as a temporary structure and never replaced. The goal is to build a permanent ramp, which is estimated to cost \$100,000 and \$120,000. The Building Department is requesting CDBG Access funds for a ramp design. Once the design is complete the cost of constructing the ramp will hopefully be incorporated into the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Mayor's Committee members wondered about the accessibility of the inside of the building. The Cultural Center includes an accessible bathroom, but there is no elevator so only the first floor is accessible. There is a gym located in the basement of the building which can be reached from a separate, outside entrance.

S. Gillman presented the application for \$16,575 in CDBG Access funds for improvements to City Hall. These proposed improvements include: accessible seating in the aldermanic chambers, an accessible podium in the Aldermanic Chambers, accessible door hardware for both meeting rooms and departments, and the costs associated with re-routing the downspout on the Homer Street/accessible entrance of the building (the downspout currently creates safety and accessibility issues with ice in the winter). One of the members mentioned that currently during Aldermanic meetings the accessible doors, which are the center doors, are kept closed. K. Cahill will speak with David Olson, the City Clerk about this practice.

The members spent time discussing each proposed project in terms of how many people utilized each building. City Hall was considered the most widely used followed by the Cultural Center. L. Chansky made a motion to recommend approval of \$7,250 in CDBG Access funding for the accessible door hardware in City Hall, \$1,125 for accessible seating in the Aldermanic Chambers of City Hall and \$8,200 in CDBG Access funds for the design of a complaint ramp for the Cultural Center. J. Brown seconded the motion and the Committee voted 5-1-0 to recommend approval of funding.

2. **Update:** Update by the Newton Farm Commission on the Angino Farm Renovations.

The Mayor's Committee decided to revisit their discussion on the Angino Farm renovations. Members decided to recommend that an HP space be moved from the circular driveway to the space marked #5, which abuts the retaining wall. The relocation of this space will ensure that there is one HP space closest to the basement entrance and one HP space closet to the entrance into the main floor. K. Cahill will communicate this recommendation to Alice Ingerson, Community Preservation Program Manager, who in turn will communicate this to the Community Preservation Committee.

The Mayor's Committee did not have time to take up items 3-6.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities
CDBG Access Projects Report
March 14, 2011

Accessible Pedestrian Signals (Project CD10-03D. Expended, \$7,818; Budget balance: \$17,995; CD10-03D). Centre St. and Centre Ave. is a priority intersection; however it is on-hold pending a final decision by the Newton Corner Advisory Committee. Installation of APS improvements at Washington St. and Commonwealth Ave. will be completed this spring. Installation of APS at Washington Street by Newton-Wellesley Hospital will begin next spring after curb cut/crosswalk work is completed.

Charlesbank Playground (Project CD0903C. Expended, \$22,872; Budget balance: \$7,125). Phase I includes new play equipment and swings on top of rubberized safety surfacing, a new accessible entrance ramp, accessible benches and picnic tables, and planting of new trees and shrubs. The project is 80% complete – all walkways, new sidewalks and the ramp have been installed as well as the play equipment and the rubberized safety surfacing. Handrails for the ramp still need to be installed and the area needs to be seeded this spring.

Curb Cuts (Project CD1003C, Expended: \$33,503 Budget balance: \$110,978). Work at Lowell @ Washington will begin this spring. Design for Walnut @ Newtonville and @ Austin Street seems to be stalled; would like Committee to consider curb cut construction @ Washington and Commonwealth.

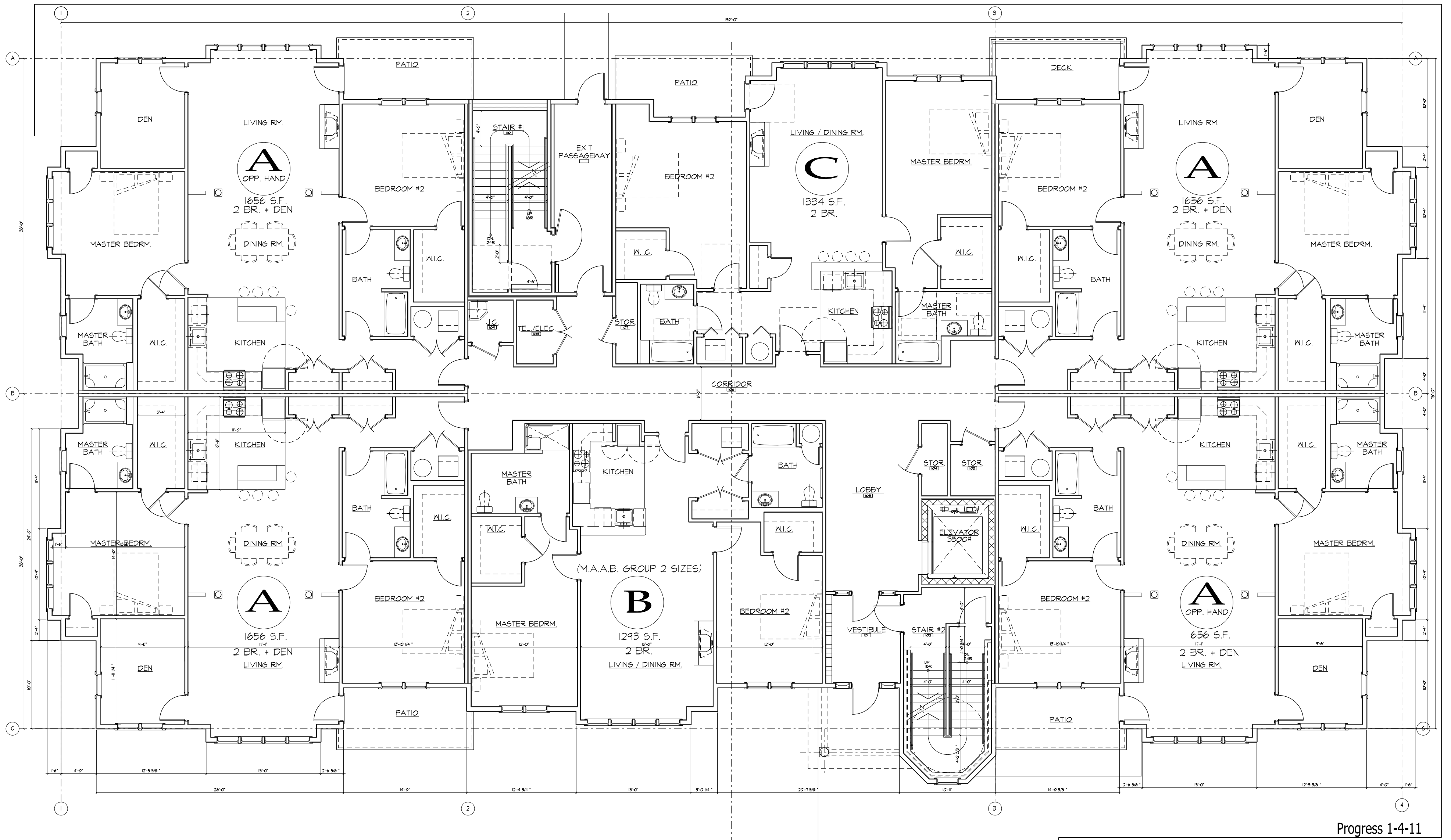
Retrofitting Curb Cuts (Project CD0903E, Budget balance, \$6,000). A total of 7 locations (Homer Street, Beacon St. @ Dalton, Centre Green @ Langley, 1188 Centre Green, 82 Lincoln Street, 100 Walnut Street, 28 Commonwealth St) (19 curb cuts) were fitted with tactile warnings. Project 100% complete. No labor was billed; Committee needs to discuss another use of funds.

Nahanton Accessible Pathway and Handicap Parking Space (CDR09-03, Expended: 15,051; Budget balance: \$7,783)

Project includes retrofitting park for handicap accessibility through the construction of an accessible pathway and the addition of a van accessible parking space. Construction began mid-September. Accessible pathway complete, HP space installed (no striping), work on water mitigation will begin this spring.

Newton Community Service Center – Auditorium Ramp (CD11-03E, Budget balance: 5,000). Construction of an accessible ramp in the auditorium of the organization's Waltham Street location. NCSC finalizing project timeline.

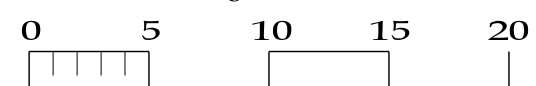
Historic Newton/The Jackson Homestead – Archives Preservation and Access (CD1103F, Budget balance \$40,000). Construction of an accessible ramp into the entrance of the Jackson Homestead. Design work being finalized.



Progress 1-4-11

FIRST FLOOR PLAN (Schematic)

SCALE = 1/8" = 1'-0"



10, 957 GSF

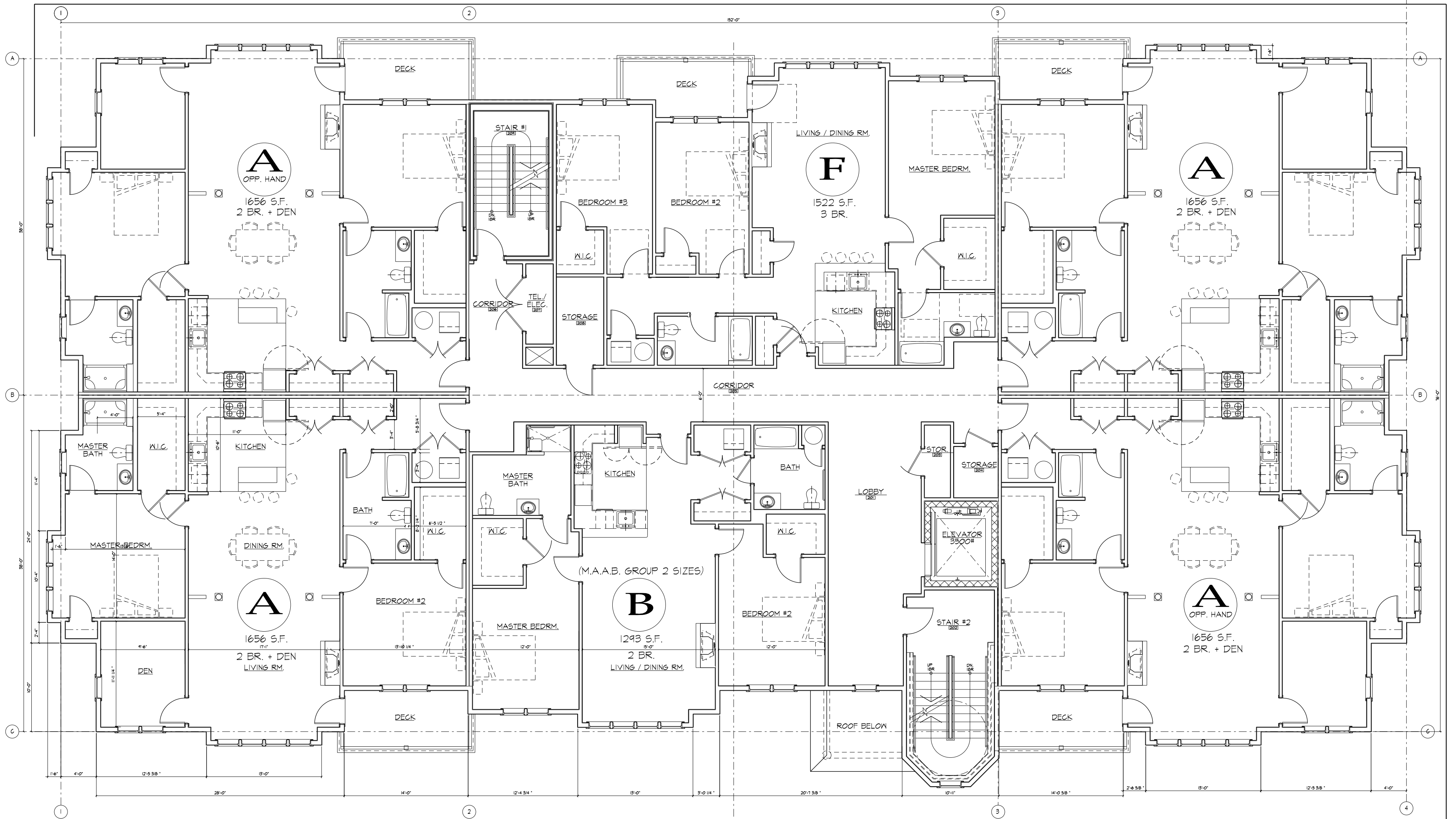
SHEKLEY ARCHITECTS	
14 FRANKLIN STREET QUINCY, MA. 02169 PHONE: 617-770-2010 FAX: 617-472-0494	
DATE:	REVISION:
JOB NO. -	SCALE: -
	DATE: -
	FILE NAME: -

S.E.B.
165 Chestnut Hill Ave.
Unit Z
Brighton, MA. 02135

DEDHAM STREET
HOUSING
Newton MA.

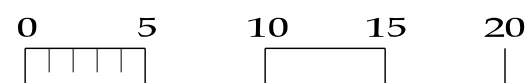
FIRST FLOOR PLAN
Schematic

A1.1



SECOND FLOOR PLAN (Schematic)

SCALE = $\frac{1}{8}" = 1'-0"$



10, 896 GSF

SHEKES ARCHITECTS	
14 FRANKLIN STREET QUINCY, MA. 02169 PHONE: 617-770-2010 FAX: 617-472-0494	
DATE:	REVISION:
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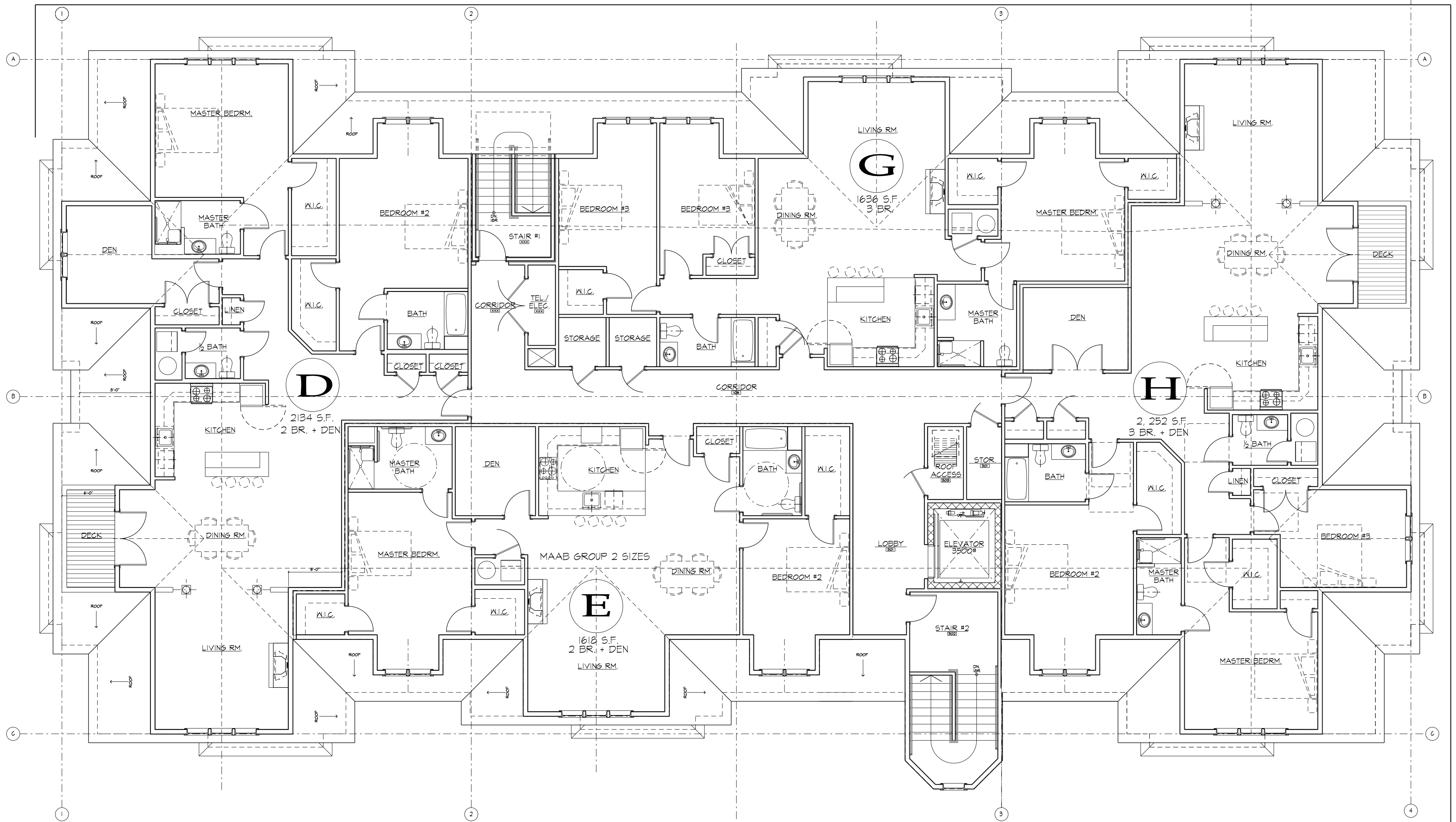
S.E.B.
165 Chestnut Hill Ave.
Unit Z
Brighton, MA. 02135

DEDHAM STREET
HOUSING
Newton MA.

SECOND FLOOR PLAN
(Schematic)

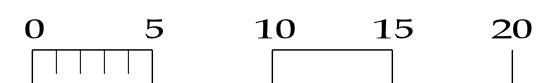
A1.2

Progress 1-4-11



THIRD FLOOR PLAN (Schematic)

SCALE = 1/8" = 1'-0"



8,907 GSF

Progress 1-4-11

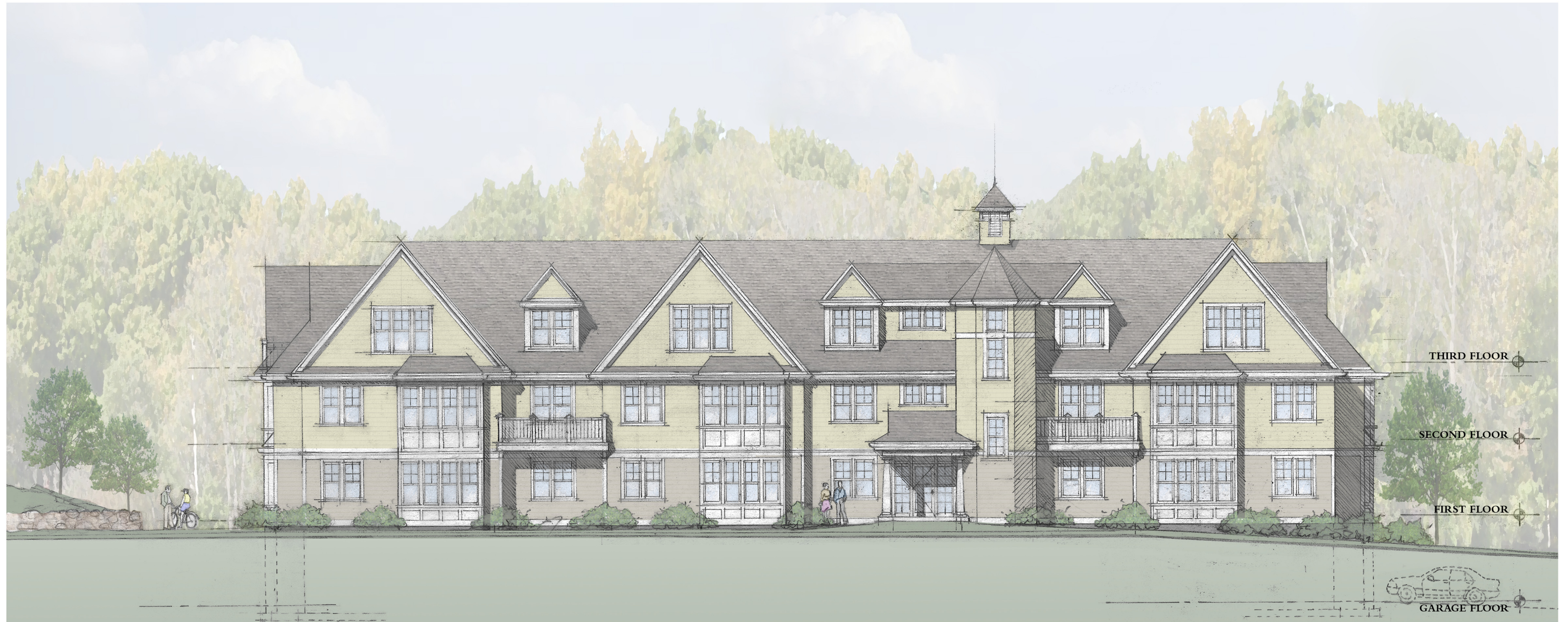
SHESEY ARCHITECTS	
14 FRANKLIN STREET QUINCY, MA, 02169 PHONE: 617-770-2010 FAX: 617-472-0494	
DATE:	REVISION:
JOB NO. -	SCALE: -
	DATE: -
	FILE NAME: -

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Brighton, MA, 02135

**DEDHAM STREET
HOUSING
Newton MA.**

**THIRD FLOOR PLAN
Schematic**

A1.3



SCHEMATIC NORTH ELEVATION



DEDHAM STREET
 NEWTON, MA

S HESKEY ARCHITECTS
 11 NOVEMBER 2010